

ORIGINAL
Jennifer Ybarra



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From: Roger Ball [rcb@theriver.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 7:23 PM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: Sonoita SSVEC Power Line Project
Attachments: SSVEC.doc

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Sept 21, 2009

Roger Ball,
130 Los Encinos,
Sonoita, AZ
85637

Arizona Corporation Commission,
Phoenix, AZ

Dear Sirs:

As a resident of Sonoita, and Santa Cruz County since the early 90's, who has experienced electrical outages that lasted for hours, and longer, I applaud Sulphur Springs Valley Electrical Cooperative, an Electrical Distributing Corporation for attempting to upgrade our system. As a homeowner in the area, I value the electrical power available at the meter to my home, and the convenience of the appliances my family uses. I support any effort to upgrade the system utilizing the standards of the industry, and the least disruptive installation available to the locality.

The local Sonoita Whiners Association and Nimby's are wearing pinhole glasses as they argue the current low demand, improvement design, and the potential for growth in the Sonoita area. The 350 acres south of Sonoita (the old Dean Short's property) between highways 82 and 83 is zoned for 1000 residences, and developments like Sonoita Springs Ranch on 82 south going into Patagonia will all need power in the future. Additionally, the whole "Sonoita Empire" area is a 5 acre parcel checker board that eventually will have hundreds more houses, businesses, etc. As a member of the cooperative, I would like to see futuristic planning and development today rather than expensive emergency counter measures in the future. True, no one likes the idea of larger poles, lines, etc., but I am getting ready for the future, the twenty-first century today.

Finally, the environmental argument is compelling to many, but the Bobacombri itself is slated for development on the east side, and they too are seeking the power. Ironically, this is probably why they allowed the lines in, and negotiated the burial along 83 within their boundaries. With 40 acre parcels and rural castles in the wilderness, they too will demand power and services. I believe the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, and the Federal EPA will be adequate enough to protect, and allow development in the Grassland area of the county.

In closing, a few power poles are better than hundreds of dead trees holding up electrical lines, and cost significantly less to maintain due to grass fires, auto accidents off the roadways, pests, etc. I support new power coming into Sonoita.

Respectfully,

Roger Clawson Ball